



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
*United States Attorney*  
*Western District of New York*

*Further inquiries: (716) 843-5814*

---

*138 Delaware Avenue*  
*Buffalo, New York 14202*

# PRESS RELEASE

March 9, 2004

**RE: UNITED STATES v. MARK FRIEDMAN**

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today the sentencing of Mark Friedman, age 41, of Andover, New Jersey in United States District Court before the Hon. Richard J. Arcara. In October 2003, Mr. Friedman was convicted after a jury trial of using the internet and telephone services in an attempt to lure a 14 year old minor girl into sexual activity and with traveling interstate (from New Jersey to the Buffalo area) for the purpose of engaging in sexual activity with that minor. Judge Arcara sentenced the defendant to 81 months incarceration, followed by 3 years of supervised release involving stringent conditions of conduct regarding his contact with children and his use of the internet.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Martin J. Littlefield, who prosecuted the case, said that the underlying events occurred on January 12, 2002, when the defendant was discovered in a remote area of a parking lot at a local shopping mall with the 14-year old victim. Subsequent investigation revealed that the defendant had met the victim on the internet two months prior and over that time had used instant-messaging and scores of telephone calls in his attempt to lure her into agreeing to sexual activity. The defendant traveled from

Andover, New Jersey to the Buffalo area on January 11, 2002, stayed overnight in a local hotel, and met the victim the next day.

Mr. Littlefield praised the excellent work of the Mall Security Guard, Arthur Fijalkowski and the Cheektowaga Police Department, Officers Paul Nazzarett and John Wanat, along with Captain James Morath, Detectives Gary Martz and Thomas Wentland. Mr. Littlefield noted that an extended investigation was conducted by the FBI under the direction of Special Agent-in-Charge Peter Ahearn. The FBI executed search warrants at the defendant's residence in Andover, New Jersey and undertook sensitive follow-up investigation locally. In addition, Mr. Littlefield praised the exemplary work of the Regional Computer Forensic Lab and specifically Forensic Examiner, John Shumway for locating critical evidence on the defendant's computer.

\* \* \*